



Maine Department of Education

School or SAU Organization Change Policy

Issue Date: April 9, 2019

Revised Date: August 1, 2020

Purpose:

This policy will allow for maintenance of an accurate centralized inventory of public schools and school administrative units (SAU) that allows for change in buildings and school population.

Scope:

This policy applies to all Maine public schools and SAUs.

Policy Statement:

Maine schools and SAUs change jurisdictions, grades, and student populations for various reasons. It is necessary to have a standardized method of determining when a school or SAU should be assigned a new organization id. Organization ids are used for reporting to outside entities and allow for longitudinal reporting across years, so care must be taken to ensure a new code is necessary.

Statutes, Rules or References:

Not Applicable

Definitions:

The **attendance area** is the population of students eligible to attend a school

ESEA – Elementary and Secondary Education Act

NCES – National Center for Education Statistics

The **organization ID** is the distinct number that identifies an organization in MDOE data systems

Responsibilities:

Responsibilities of Schools and SAUs

The Superintendent of the effected SAU will notify the MEDMS Helpdesk (MEDMS.Helpdesk@maine.gov) in writing of pending changes.

Responsibilities of the Department

The Helpdesk Manager will notify the Data Reporting Coordinator, the Education Data Manager, and the Education Data Systems Manager of the submitted change.



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The Data Reporting Coordinator will maintain documentation for organization ID changes including current status, original organization name(s) and ID(s), and the reason for change. Data Reporting Coordinator will perform any analysis needed to determine change in population.

The Data Reporting Coordinator and the Education Data Manager will analyze the data & documentation, and coordinate with the superintendent of the SAU to make a final decision. The Education Data Systems Manager will communicate the decision to the MaineIT - DOE APPDEV NEO module business owners and other DOE data system business owners and discuss any potential issues that may arise due to these changes.

Procedure:

By April 1 prior to the start of the school year in which the change will take effect, or within 3 days of school board decision, the superintendent of the SAU effected by change will send an email to MEDMS.Helpdesk@maine.gov to notify the Maine Department of Education of the circumstances that may warrant a new school or organization ID. The communication should include the schools that displaced students will attend in the next school year, if applicable.

Reasons requiring notification include but are not limited to:

- Lack of need school closure
- Change in grade configuration
- Split of school
- Merging of schools

When the email is received, the Helpdesk Manager will forward the communication to the Data Reporting Coordinator, the Education Data Manager, and the Education Data Systems Manager. Analysis on the population or grade changes will be performed and determination of a new organization ID will be communicated to the superintendent of the SAU within 30 days of the email to the Helpdesk. Public schools or SAU receiving a new organization ID will also be assigned a new NCES ID.

When a school splits into two or more schools, the one that retains the most characteristics of the original school (such as student population, grades offered, and attendance area) retains the organization ID.

A new school organization ID will be created under the following conditions:

The grade span of the school will change by more than 3 grades in one year.

The total assessed population of the school will change by greater than 40% in one year.

The attendance area will change significantly

Two or more schools of about equal size, or with different grade spans, merge

A new school ID will not be created under the following conditions:

A school changes charter status or magnet status

A school undergoes restructuring under provisions in ESEA

Only the name of a school changes

The school's physical location will change

A school changes SAUs due to a withdrawal or consolidation



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A program that is within a school

A new SAU organization ID will be created under the following conditions:

A new (or re-established) SAU is formed from a consolidation or withdrawal

A new charter school organization is approved by the Charter School Commission

An entity withdraws from a SAU and forms a new SAU

Document History & Distribution:


This document will be distributed to Maine DOE staff and posted on the Maine Data Warehouse web page.

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Version 1.0	Initial Publication	April 9, 2019
Version 2.0	Updated Publication	August 1, 2020

Date: _____

Division Director Signature: _____

Date: 8/26/2020

Commissioner Signature: 
(or Commissioner's Designee)

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Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure:

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Timestamp

Editor Delivery Events

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Notary Events

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